

MINUTES OF MEETING
HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL

DATE: 29 March 2011

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Conference Room C
Department of Administration

ATTENDANCE:

Council: **Present:** Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Chair), John X. Donahue, Joseph L. Dowling, M.D., John W. Flynn, Maria Gil (Secretary), Catherine E. Graziano, R.N., Ph.D, R.N., Robert Hamel, Theresa Jeremiah, Amy Lapierre, Steven Lonardo, Thomas M. Madden, Esq., MPA, Daniel Orgel, Denise Panichas, Reverend David Shire (Vice-Chair)

Excused: Wallace Gernt

Not Present: Raymond C. Coia, Esq., Gary J. Gaube, Robert Ricci, Robert Whiteside

Staff: Valentina D. Adamova, MBA, Michael K. Dexter, MPA, Joseph G. Miller, Esq.

Public: (Attached)

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and Time Extension for the Minutes Availability.

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 PM. Ms. Lapierre noted a correction for the minutes of 1 March 2011 that they reflect her statement regarding the 100% equity being included as a condition of approval. Minutes of the Health Services Council meeting of 1 March 2011 were adopted as revised. The Chair noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. A motion was made, seconded and passed by a vote of thirteen in favor and none opposed (13-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Donahue, Dowling, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Lapierre, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Shire.

2. General Order of Business

Ms. Almeida noted her recusal with regards to the application of Gentiva Health Services, Inc.

The next item on the agenda was the *Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of **Gentiva Health Services, Inc.** for change in effective control of Odyssey Healthcare, Inc. d/b/a Odyssey Hospice in Warwick.* Staff summarized the application and deliberations of the Committee on this matter.

The applicant reviewed the proposal and answered the Council's questions. The Council noted that any recommendation would be subject to the applicant providing a copy of the charity care policy specific to the Rhode Island facility.

A motion was made by Graziano, seconded by Hamel and passed by a vote of eleven in favor, none opposed and two recusals (11-0-2-1) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval and provision of the charity care policy. Those members voting in favor were: Donahue, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Lapierre, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Panichas, Shire. Those members recusing were: Almeida, Dowling. Those members abstaining were: Madden.

The next item on the agenda was the *Report of the Committee of the Health Services Council on the application of **Comfort, LLC** for initial licensure as a Home Nursing Care Provider in Johnston*. Staff summarized the application and deliberations of the Committee on this matter.

The applicant discussed their track record and confirmed that Ms. Miller will be the full-time administrator.

A motion was made by Hamel, seconded by Shire and passed by a vote of fourteen in favor and none opposed (14-0) to recommend that the application be approved subject to the conditions of approval. Those members voting in favor were: Almeida, Donahue, Dowling, Flynn, Gil, Graziano, Hamel, Jeremiah, Lapierre, Lonardo, Madden, Orgel, Panichas, Shire.

The next item on the agenda was the presentation by Christopher Koller, Rhode Island Health Insurance Commissioner: *OHIC Affordability Standards - Progress to Date* (presentation attached). The Chair thanked Commissioner Koller for his presentation.

Next, Mr. Lonardo and Mr. Donahue raised the issue of having a special Council meeting to share ideas and improve the process. The Chair concurred and noted that such a future meeting that is open to the public for comments should be set up.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova, MBA
Acting Chief Program Development